

# Adjective series



**ADJECTIVE SERIES** Series-when two or more adjectives are used in a sentence following a pattern. The pattern: 1. The Determiner came first which as the adjective (a. an. the) or pronominal adjectives (these, our, several.....) 2. Numerical adjectives-follow however the ordinal number (first second...) comes first the cardinal number (one, two) 3. The descriptive adjectives-come last when there are more than one descriptive adjective used follow this order: The order a. size b. shape c. quality d. color e. noun determiner-closed description of a noun. Example: Those eighteen long - steammed red pronoun numerical size color minimal. In many languages, attributive adjectives usually occur in a specific order. In general, the adjective order in English is: 1. general opinion 2. specific opinion 3. size 4. shape 5. age 6. color 7. origin (nationality) 8. material So, in English, adjectives pertaining to size precede adjectives pertaining to age (" little old", not " old little"), which in turn generally precede adjectives pertaining to color (" old white", not " white old"). So, we would say " One (quantity) nice (opinion) little (size) round (shape) old (age) white (color) brick (material) house." This order may be more rigid in some languages than others; in some, like Spanish, it may only be a default (unmarked) word order, with other orders being permissible. Due partially to borrowings from French, English has some adjectives that follow the noun as postmodifiers, called postpositive adjectives, such as time immemorial. Adjectives may even change meaning depending on whether they precede or follow, as in proper: They live in a proper town (a real town, not a village) vs. They live in the town proper (in the town itself, not in the suburbs). All adjectives can follow nouns in certain constructions, such as tell me something new.